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EMETICS IN SCARLATINA.

[THE last No. of the Transylvania Medical Journal contains a dissertation on scarlatina, by Professor Cross. We extract from it the following remarks on the use of emetics in this disease.]

As has been already remarked, an emetic should be exhibited on the first intimation of the existence of scarlatina, and it should be repeated, according to circumstances, throughout the whole course of the disease. This should be done whether it consist in cutaneous inflammation merely, or be complicated with secondary lesions. If the former, we use them to prevent the supervention of the latter; and if the latter, to moderate and subdue them. There are those who condemn them, and particularly Dr. Armstrong, in cases of the latter description. This, however, does not accord with our experience, for, unless there is gastro-enteric congestion or inflammation, there is no reason to fear they will prove prejudicial. The powerful centrifugal impulse they give to the blood has the effect not only to prevent the formation of, but to remove local congestions. Though emetics are decidedly useful in the management of secondary lesions, they are certainly much more efficacious in preventing them. They effectually clear the air-passages—secure the complete arterialization of the blood, and thus prevent debility and the formation of local determinations and congestions. Recourse should, therefore, be had at once to vomiting, and we should not injudiciously waste time in the employment of the other and much less efficacious means.

The stage of the disease should not be considered an argument against the use of emetics. Respiration may be already very much oppressed—local lesions may have already formed, and debility may already prevail to a considerable extent, and yet we should not be deterred from their prompt and decided use. It is certain that the danger consists in the morbid state of the mucous lining of the air-passages, and this every moment increasing, death must result, if it is not speedily removed. No compromise or hesitation is consequently admissible, for however much, in certain debilitated states of the system, we may dread the exhausting effects of emetics, it must be risked until safer means of clearing the air-passages can be discovered. Generally this apprehension is gratuitous and unfounded, for so far from increasing, the debility is much diminished. If the emetic has the effect to remove any considerable portion of the secretions accumulated in the air-passages,

the blood in circulating through the lungs will be more fully exposed to the action of the air; and from its improved condition, the system will derive strength. This change in the blood is sometimes rendered very obvious in the lighter complexion which the eruption, before dark and livid, assumes. And if even the slightest improvement in this respect is observed to follow emesis, we have the greatest encouragement to persevere, for we have every reason to believe that if sufficiently often repeated and in sufficiently rapid succession, we shall ultimately triumph. This is indispensable, for if their repetition is not strictly enforced, it is easy to lose what little ground has been gained, for in a short time the respiratory passages will be found as much obstructed and the eruption of as dark a hue as before. To a neglect of this precaution, in a great degree, we are satisfied should be ascribed the unsatisfactory results that have often followed emetics, and also, much of the vagueness with which they are spoken of by authors.

While we recommend vomiting as of the greatest efficacy in scarlatina, we would not be understood to intimate that it is of no importance by what article it is excited. On the contrary, our success will mainly depend on the selection we make. The articles that have been used are tartar emetic, *sanguinaria Canadensis* and *ippecacuanha*.

The first article, just mentioned, has not only been used, but has been spoken of in terms of decided approval. The confidence which has been reposed in it is misplaced, and the error thus committed is fraught with the greatest danger. Given occasionally, perhaps two or three times in the course of the disease, as is the common practice, it will not probably prove very prejudicial. From what has been said, however, this is not the way in which emetics are to be used, if we would derive much benefit from them. They are to be administered as often as the condition of the air-passages may require, and if tartar emetic is thus used, instead of preventing, it would infallibly produce exhaustion. The relaxation and the severe discharges of which it is invariably the cause, when often repeated, would prostrate without being productive of any commensurate advantage. Tartar emetic is also a powerful irritant, and if given in any disease where there is a tendency to gastro-enteric congestion, it will be certain to produce it, and by its injudicious repetition gastro-enteric inflammation will result. Instead, therefore, of being useful, the disease is exasperated by the production of a secondary lesion. It is very much disposed to act on the bowels, in consequence of the irritation it excites, and thus we run the risk of producing diarrhoea. This should be strictly avoided if possible, for nothing more rapidly exhausts the strength or is a source of more danger. For these reasons and others that might be mentioned, we look upon tartar emetic as an exceedingly dangerous remedy in scarlatina, and one that should never be employed. We venture thus decidedly to condemn it, notwithstanding it is in very general use and is much commended by those who confide in emetics, because we are persuaded the production of the effects just referred to has tended very much to impair the confidence that may be safely reposed in emesis.

Sanguinaria Canadensis has been much commended by Dr. Tully,

but as we have no personal knowledge of its effects, we will not venture to decide upon its merits, though we are not inclined to believe it will ever be substituted for ipecacuanha, an article which, so far as we have been enabled to judge of it from personal observation, is not obnoxious to the aversion of one of the objections that have been urged against tartar emetic. From its repetition as often as was deemed necessary in the severest cases that occurred under our observation, we never had reason to consider it the cause of gastro-enteric irritation, of general exhaustion, or of diarrhoea.

For the first time, in the year 1832, when scarlatina prevailed to a very great extent in this county as an epidemic, I had recourse to ipecacuanha in the way I have already mentioned. Several times previously, however, I had seen this disease, and had always treated it in accordance with the ordinary modes; but my success was anything but satisfactory. Since my main reliance has been on ipecacuanha, the results of my treatment have been so very different, that I now regard the disease as in a great degree divested of its former terrors. My success, if it has not surpassed, has at least equalled that of any other physician of whom I have read or with whom I am acquainted. In the summer and autumn of 1832, when scarlatina was very prevalent in this county, I had under my care sixty-seven cases, all of which, with the exception of one, recovered. The fatal case occurred in a lady about 35 years of age; she had suffered under the disease six days when I saw her for the first time, and she died early on the eighth day. When first seen her situation was considered hopeless. Since the year to which reference has been made, I have seen about the same number of cases, and have been uniformly successful, so that of about one hundred and twenty cases, but one proved fatal. My confidence in ipecacuanha was made known to a number of physicians, several of whom made a faithful trial of it in the way recommended, and although their success was not so complete as that realized by myself, it was sufficiently satisfactory to induce them to rely upon it in future.

DISSERTATION ON GENERATION.

BY E. F. BUGARD, A.B.

[Sustained at his public examination for the degree of Doctor in Medicine, before the Faculty of Medicine of Harvard University, February 8, 1839.]

THE variety of beings that people the world is so great, that the human mind can hardly conceive or imagine their number; and the philosopher who observes the march of nature, cannot help perceiving a creating power, the sole principle of life, constantly engaged in the production of new beings, without appearing to provide for their future existence. Though this latter opinion may be opposed to that of many, were it necessary to give proofs in support of it, perhaps it might not be difficult to find them in the fact that races of animals have existed, become extinct, and were replaced by others that still exist, which probably will disappear in their turn, and make room for new ones.

The Creator, however, in giving life to millions of different species of beings, has not been willing that they should immediately pass from his creating hand into nothingness; consequently he has given to each one, not only the means of existence, but also those of reproduction; even more, he has established in each individual, the desire, or rather the want, of contributing to this latter important preserving function.

The means and organs employed in this function are different among the different species of animals, though they all present a very great analogy. In this dissertation I shall only consider those that more intimately belong to mankind.

Like most animals, the human species, in order to reproduce itself, requires the participation of two beings, a male and a female. The act of reproduction may be divided into three parts, or three different periods, viz., fecundation, gestation, and labor or delivery. The two sexes simultaneously co-operate in the first of these functions, the male as fecundating agent, and the female as fecundated; the two others belong exclusively to the latter. Thus my subject is naturally divided into three parts, which I shall successively consider.

Of Fecundation.—Fecundation is the successful result of the union of a male and a female, by which the dormant rudiments or principles of a new being, secreted by the female, are put into action by the contact of the sperm or fecundating principle secreted by the male, that they may be developed and acquire an independent life.

With regard to the sexual parts of the male, the texture of the corpus cavernosum and corpus spongiosum, which constitute the penis, are composed of an infinite number of branches of arteries, which anastomose in every direction, and their interstices are filled by an infinite number of minute veins, which anastomose also in every direction, thus forming a kind of cellular and porous body. It is not difficult to conceive that such an organ, made up with elastic tubes, must be very flaccid when those tubes are empty, and hard in proportion as they are more or less filled. Besides, this fact is easily ascertained by the injection of the veins or arteries, or of both, which always produce the erection of the dead penis. How that injection takes place in the living penis, and when it is established, how it maintains itself or ceases, remains to be seen.

It is probable, if not ascertained, that the arteries of the corpus cavernosum and corpus spongiosum communicate quite freely by their extremities with the origin of the veins, into which they pour the blood which they contain; and I am induced to suppose that at the origin of the penis, the arteries, however small they may be, are provided with sphincters, which are submitted to the influence of the nervous system, and that when an exciting cause is present, those sphincters expand, that the arterial blood may pass, and in this manner exert a pressure upon the neighboring veins, the openings of which are thus closed at the very root of that organ, so that the blood which is forced into the arteries, and consequently into the veins, cannot escape as long as the dilatation of the sphincters exists; but as soon as the exciting cause ceases, the sphincters of the arteries close themselves, the pressure on those vessels, and consequently on the veins, is removed, and the blood imme-

diately returns to the heart. Thus, when the orifices of the arteries are open and those of the veins closed, erection is produced, and continues as long as the parts remain under the same influence and in the same situation—as long as the arterial pressure is not prevented, and the blood is retained in the veins; but as soon as fatigue, caused by the arterial pressure, commences, the sphincters naturally close themselves, the blood escapes from the veins, and the flaccidity of the penis takes place. As to the action of the sphincters of the arteries, it is doubtless submitted, like that of all the muscles, to the influence of the nervous system.

The nature of the fecundating principle, called sperm, or seminal fluid, secreted by the testicles of man, does not seem to be perfectly established. However, according to the observations of modern physiologists, it seems to be composed of a mucous part and organic or organized molecules. Some physiologists think that with these two parts is a third substance, which they call *aura seminalis*, the existence of which is denied by others, but which appears to me to be highly probable.

The mystery in which the act of fecundation is enveloped, has given rise to several theories, which are more or less absurd as they present more or less objections, and as they explain satisfactorily or otherwise the phenomena which excite the interest, the attention, or at least the curiosity, of the observer of nature. Of all these theories, the first, that of the seminalists, who believed the embryo was formed by the mixture of the seminal fluid of the male with a somewhat similar fluid emitted by the female, was replaced by that of the ovists, because the latter discovered, in the female testicles or ovaries, vesicles to which they gave the name of ova, and the organs that contained them were called ovaries. But the difficulty of explaining how these ova could pass into the uterus, caused the system of the seminalists to prevail until Fallopius, of Modena, who lived in the sixteenth century, discovered the tubes since called, from his name, the Fallopian tubes. But in the seventeenth century, Lewenhœck and Harsœker, Dutch physicians, having discovered that living animals were to be found in the seminal fluid, established the system of animalists, which was generally admitted until Lieubereahn, of Berlin, found that what had been taken for animals was, in fact, but organic molecules, contained in the fluid emitted by woman in as large numbers as in that produced by man. The system of the ovists was then re-established, and has been maintained to this day, not without causing, however, many different opinions as to the manner in which the ova are fecundated. All these opinions, sustained and opposed by arguments that are more or less ingenious, without ever being convincing, leave to those who seek information in the experience of others, but the sad alternative of making no choice, or of adopting the system that presents the least objections or difficulties.

However, most physiologists think that fecundation cannot be effected without the contact of the seminal fluid of the male with the ovum in the ovary. Others think that contact is not necessary, and that fecundation is the effect of the sympathy which exists between the ovaries,

the uterus and vagina ; they give, as proofs of this opinion, instances of fecundation where the passage to the uterus was interrupted either by a hymen extremely difficult to tear, or by some adhesion in the vagina. But may we not inquire whether these adhesions in the vagina could not be the result of a local inflammation that had taken place after fecundation ; and whether the hymen, after having been lacerated, could not have been re-united by adhesion by first intention ; and even whether the thickness and hardness of that organ, which is generally very thin and tender, are not proofs that its texture was altered, first by a morbid, and then by a repairing action. Such an adhesion is certainly probable—nay, more, seems to be quite natural, especially when it is considered that the lacerated parts are soon after the laceration naturally put in contact, and even pressed against each other. As for myself I think that it is only by the communication of the sperm with the ovaries that fecundation can take place. What makes me think so is the form and disposition of the appendages of the uterus, and the successful means that are employed by some women who like to enjoy the venereal pleasures without exposing themselves to the disagreeable consequences of conception. But I shall have occasion to re-consider this part of my subject.

Not satisfied with the theories generally received on many points relating to the subject of this dissertation, I have been led to different views, which I shall try to explain. The rudiments or principles of whatever woman is destined to produce, consist of the small vesicles which were called ova, but which hereafter I shall designate by the name of vesicles, and the organs that secrete them I shall call vesicular glands. I prefer these names to those of ova and ovaries, on account of the want of analogy between the objects these are intended to represent and the ova and ovaries of *non-mammalia* animals, to which they were originally given, and to which they should exclusively belong ; for, without entering into other details to show their misapplication in the *mammalia* species, it will be quite sufficient to observe that the ovum, such as it exists in the ovaries of birds and reptiles, when it is fit for fecundation, is generally, as regards its form, of a size in proportion to that of the particular animal to which it belongs, and, according to this principle, that of a woman should be nearly as large as that of an ostrich. I therefore believe that the principle, *omne vivum ex ovo*, is too general, and should be restricted to these, *omne vivum non mammosum ex ovo*, and *omne vivum mammorum ex vesicula*.

There is a point about which most physiologists seem to be quite indifferent, and which appears to me to be of greater importance than many others for which they have spent much time in researches and publications. That point is, whether sexes are mixed in each ovary or vesicular gland, or whether each ovary or vesicular gland contains a particular sex. I know that the received opinion is, that sexes are mixed in each vesicular gland, and that the other opinion is generally considered as the ridiculous offspring of fancy, without being supported by any moral, philosophical, or physical reason. However, if vesicles or ova are secreted by the vesicular glands, of which there is no doubt in my mind, it is evident that the one must secrete the male and

the other the female ; for no one will deny that man and woman are different beings ; and if they are different beings, however small the difference that characterizes them may be, they cannot proceed from the same principle. To sustain the contrary would be as absurd as to sustain that different effects could be produced by the same cause. Since the principle that produces the male is and must be different from that which produces the female, each requires a particular organ for its secretion, because it would be absurd to suppose that they could be secreted by the same one ; as absurd as to suppose that in a state of health the liver can secrete other things than bile, the kidneys other things than urine, the lachrymal glands other things than tears, &c. Since the principles from which the two sexes are formed require different organs for their secretion, it is natural to conclude that one of the vesicular glands is for the secretion of the male, and the other for the female. To destroy this argument, I think that it must be proved either that man and woman are anatomically or physically the same being, or that different beings or effects can be produced by the same principle or cause, or that the same organ, in a state of health, can produce different secretions, which I dare say no rational mind will attempt to do.

But in support of this opinion, many facts could be produced by post-mortem examinations of mothers who had children of either sex or both ; also the circumstance that there are many mothers that have given birth to several male children without a single female, and others to many females without a single male. Such instances certainly prove that it was the intention of nature that the sexes should be separated in the vesicular glands ; for did they not prove that, they would prove at least that the mixture must have been practised by a very unskilful hand ; but *nihil absurdius*.

[To be continued.]

FIBROUS STRUCTURE OF THE RETINA.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

DEAR SIR,—Having observed in your Journal that a copy of my treatise on the eye could not be found in Boston, I respectfully forward one to your address. It contains several errors, which I shall endeavor to correct in another edition, which may perhaps soon appear.

The fibres in the retina, which have been demonstrated to hundreds, are not imaginary, but may be easily exhibited by immersing the eye of a calf, for a few days, in alcohol, and separating them with a camel's-hair pencil, after the retina is exposed by cutting off the anterior portion of the eye. The demonstration may be facilitated by pouring into the cup thus formed a watery solution of corrosive sublimate. When an alcoholic solution of corrosive sublimate and muriate of ammonia is used, the fibres become matted together, and the entire coat may be pulled off, exposing a layer of globules, which are kept in position by the coat of Jacob. By the same preparation we can also demonstrate that Jacob's coat is double, like the pleura.

The method by which the adjustment of the eye is effected, may be demonstrated as clearly as any other truth in physiology. When the lens is a sphere, there is no change in its diameter by rotation; but if it be less or greater than a sphere, the comparative extent of the denser medium for the passage of light will be changed, if attempted to be adjusted by traction at only one point. This may be illustrated by the following sketches.



In order to bring the rays to a focus, lenses, greater or less than spheres, must be so adjusted that one margin will not be farther removed than another from the former position. The instruments for effecting this are the ciliary processes, which are attached to the extension of the capsule, forming the anterior wall of the canal of Petit. At the roots of the processes there are muscular fibres, which, compressing the veins, will cause an elongation and draw forward the margin of the capsule, and the lens along with it; while it will be drawn back by the elasticity of the membranes of the vitreous humor. When the outer layer of the choroid is dissected off the ciliary body, the muscular fibres may be shown, though the dissection is somewhat difficult to a person not in the habit of performing it. The collection at the upper portion of the eye is simular in the ox, and of this shape, while the under portion is not so strong. The arteries going to the processes pass at the equator of the eye, and are so situated that they are not pressed on by the muscular fibres; while the returning veins pass through them. In the sheep the muscular fibres are in the upper portion, placed at right angles to the processes, thus.



Plan of Arteries.

A fact discovered by Dr. Tully, of New Haven, Ct., throws considerable light on the physiology of the eye. He found that when an aged person is under the influence of nuxvomica, he can do without his spectacles. On the other hand, it has been long known that the eye is adjusted only to distant objects during the action of belladonna. In the former case, the effect may be produced by the increased action of the ciliary muscle, and in the latter by its relaxation permitting the elasticity of the membranes of the vitreous humor to have full play. The membranes forming the cells of the vitreous humor have a stellated appearance, thus.



At the under portion of the lens, in the striped bass, there is a triangular muscle supplied with a distinct nerve of mo-

tion, the shape of which is shown in the margin. One angle of the muscle is attached to the crystalline lens, and the other to the membranes of the vitreous humor. It passes through a loop at the back of the iris, and when it acts, the lens may be drawn very near the cornea, while the retraction is effected by the elasticity of the membranes of the vitreous humor. The muscle has various shapes, with or without a loop, and is absent in all those aquatic animals which are furnished with ciliary processes; as the shark and the porpoise, where the lens is less than a sphere (an oblate spheroid), and the cuttle fish, where it is greater (a prolate spheroid).



In my published papers I was at a loss to explain the retraction of the lens, till informed by Dr. Tully of the effect of strychnine, and the consequent reconsideration of the effect of belladonna. I acknowledge that in this respect I have committed several errors, and that my publications were premature.

You will find in Porterfield a statement that some have said there was an apparatus by which the eyes of fishes are adjusted, though he gives no credit to the assertion, and does not say in what it consists. In my original paper on the subject, I gave the following quotation from Cuvier. "In a great number of fishes there is a falciform ligament, which passes through a slit in the retina and penetrates the vitreous humor." "It contains bloodvessels and nerves, and is attached to the capsule of the crystalline at its inferior surface, sometimes by a simple elevation or by a fold a little more opaque, at other times by means of a grain or tubercle, transparent and harder than the vitreous humor in which it is placed." "Jurin has named it the ganglion of the crystalline."

In a late number of the London Magazine of Natural History, I think for March last, Professor Dalrymple, after giving an account of a similar body in the eye of a pike, says, "that the existence of this body is unknown in England, at least, may be inferred from the fact that the learned professor of comparative anatomy in the College of Surgeons, Mr. Owen, and Mr. Yarrell, so well known by his beautiful work on the Ichthyology of Great Britain, were unacquainted with the subject when I mentioned it to them." After having stated that his preparations were exhibited to some Americans attending the Ophthalmic Hospital, he remarks that a similar account had been published by me, but says, "*I cannot help suspecting that Mr. Wallace is one of the Americans to whom the observations made by me were imparted at the Ophthalmic Hospital some years ago.*" I have elsewhere remarked that I am not an American, and that the individuals alluded to are of course free from all suspicion of plagiarism; but I published my account in 1834, the same year in which he published his work on the eye, and said nothing on the subject till 1838.

To any person who will read the accounts of Porterfield and Knox, my discoveries in the ciliary body will appear altogether different, and are capable of ocular demonstration. Respectfully, your obt. servt.

New York, Feb. 7, 1839.

W. C. WALLACE.

HOOPING COUGH.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

THE opinion that hooping cough is essentially a spasmodic or nervous affection, which has been gaining ground for the last five years, is roundly controverted by Dr. Gallup in his Institutes of Medicine. We transcribe his views, as the practice under the two theories is so essentially different. Belladonna and carbonate of iron, with the nameless host of the remedies of the theorist of spasm, must be soon gathered to the tomb of buried specifics. Dr. Gallup says—"the apparent spasm is a part of the involuntary movements of the conservative power of the human economy, exerted to relieve the tissues of the intolerable irritation. This false thesis of spasm has led to very disastrous results in the treatment of hooping cough. It has introduced into its service not only the most powerful of anti-spasmodics, but the most destructive of all narcotics. The pathological error was conceived in darkness, and the remedy brought forth in ignorance." He continues, "were the subject less important, we might be spared the pain of the above remarks. But in consequence of an erroneous principle, the young sufferers in this disease are liberally fed with Dover's powder, black drop, morphia, and the tribes of pedlars' cough drops. We are not content to speak through pages which may never reach the public eye, but wish for a lengthened trumpet that might tingle the ears of empirics and charlatans in every avenue of their retreat." The indications of treatment of course are the same as in other inflammatory affections. After satisfactory depletion, the doctor advises the old alkaline mixture, which had rather gone out of date, but which, we think, he has done well to revive, viz., carb. pot., 3 ij.; cork, ʒ ij.; aq. pur., 3 x.; sacch. alb., 3 ij. M. Give freely. While pertussis is now epidemic, it appeared to me that the above extract would be useful.

E.

EXTENSIVE FRACTURE OF THE SKULL.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

A VERY severe surgical operation was successfully performed by Dr. Robert Kelsey, of Avon, N. Y., on the 4th of November, 1838, assisted by Dr. Charles Little and Dr. I. F. Whitbeck, of Avon, and Dr. Wm. Butler, of Lima.

A man, by the name of Taylor, received a severe contusion and fracture on the right side of the head, by the kick of a horse. The fracture and depression involved nearly all the squamous portion of the os temporis, extending into the anterior and inferior portion of the os frontis, immediately back of the superciliary ridge. The depressed portions of bone were elevated and removed, amounting in all to thirteen pieces. It was found, on raising the bone, that the cork of the horse's shoe had perforated the dura mater, and a small portion of the substance of the brain passed out of the opening during the operation. Four bloodvessels were tied during the operation. A large surface of the

dura mater was exposed, of the shape of a triangle, being above two inches across the base, and nearly or quite three inches in length. Notwithstanding the danger attendant upon so extensive an operation, and very much enhanced by the perforation of the dura mater, the man has recovered so as to be able to attend to his ordinary occupation as hostler. *Avon, N. Y., Feb., 1839.*

INSTRUMENTAL LABOR.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

JULY 2d, 1838, I was called to see Mrs. S., aged 32, with her first child. Between 6 and 7 o'clock, A. M., the child's head had passed the superior strait, but owing to a contraction of the inferior one it became wedged and made no farther progress from that time till 5 o'clock, P. M., making eleven hours. Pains had been extraordinarily severe and powerful all the while. The patient had become exhausted and was fast sinking. Council had been sent for, but did not arrive. Part of the ladies present strenuously opposed my using the instrument, because they considered the death of the child certain, and that of the mother probable. In this dilemma, believing no time was to be lost, I was obliged to tell them there was no danger of the life of the child or mother either, unless the child was then dead, which I thought was the fact. They consented. I applied the forceps and delivered the child in a few moments; and, to my astonishment, the child was alive, and is yet hearty and well. The woman had a quick getting-up. Query—is the life of the child common in such cases? Yours, &c.

Adams Basin, N. Y., Jan., 1839. GEORGE C. HOWARD, M.D.

BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

BOSTON, MARCH 6, 1839.

ANATOMICAL CURIOSITY.

By the polite attention of the Rev. Dr. Anderson, of the Foreign Missionary Service, we have been presented with a work on elementary anatomy, published in 1838, at the Sandwich Islands, by Dr. Judd, in the native language of the islands. It is embellished, as well as illustrated, by nineteen copper-plate engravings—fac-similes of those in the Class-book of Anatomy, prepared by ourselves, from which they were copied. They were all executed by one or more of the native members of the seminary established at Lahainaluna, on the island of Maui. The title-page runs thus—"ANATOMIA. *He Palapala Ia E Hoike Ai I Ke Aho O Ko Ke KANAKA KINO.* Ua kakauia ma ka olelo Hawaii, i mea e ao ai na haumana o ke Kula Nui, ma Lahainaluna. OAHU: mea Paipalapala A na missionari, 1838." We take it for granted that Kanaka Kino is the author's name, *Sandwiched*.

LONGEVITY.

WE are somewhat puzzled to understand a very excellent and valued correspondent, touching the cause of the death of the late Dr. Holyoke, of Salem. Although he had arrived at the great age of *one hundred and one years*, and sat at a public table by invitation of his brother physicians on his one hundredth birth-day, it is now gravely asserted that he did not die of old age. It was ascertained that it was a cancer of the stomach which hastened the melancholy exit of the patriarch of physic in New England. But our friend would fain have us believe that the use of ardent spirits produced the disease. How old must a man be to die, actually, of old age? We were personally acquainted with the late Donald Mc Donald, of quarrelsome memory, who was sent to the House of Correction, by the Police Court, for a street brawl, when about one hundred and five years old. At the age of *one hundred and eight* he enjoyed excellent health, notwithstanding an immoderate use of tobacco, and a proneness to get absolutely drunk whenever he had an opportunity. The father of Donald lived to be one hundred and thirty-seven, in Scotland, and no one knows when he would have died, had he not been accidentally killed. With respect to Dr. Holyoke, we are wholly unprepared for discussing the subject in relation to the cause of his death, having no materials for constructing an argument, pro or con, in the matter. The gentleman who has requested an answer to the question—"Do you suspect that moderate drinking shortened his days?" is respectfully referred to the faculty of the good city of Salem, his personal friends and neighbors. Since the business has assumed the aspect of a grave subject, it would be very well to have it satisfactorily disposed of by those who are competent to decide. As our friend, Dr. Peirson, seems to have created the excitement, nothing would oblige an inquirer more than an explanatory paper from that source.

Dental Quackery.—The trumpet-blowing circular of a fellow by the name of Caldwell, belonging to the whole Commonwealth of Virginia, has been sent from Philadelphia, where he appears to be sojourning, to a gentleman of official standing in this community, which somehow got entrance to our post-office box. He has the impudence to write thus: "Respected Sir,—A citizen of your city, Boston, informs me that the physicians of the city, in their Society, have resolved to investigate the existence of a ligament supporting the teeth. Please from me to say to them (*the physicians of Boston*), if they will advertise me of their wishes to hear a lecture, and will name a house that will hold 1000 persons, and permit them to attend without expense, I will go and deliver one explaining the great cause of the disease of the teeth, by which they are injured and lost; suggest remedies to arrest the effect of the causes that destroy them; to preserve, &c. Or if too much decayed, how they may most easily and safely be extracted, and explain the difficulties of this operation. If a wide difference from the opinions heretofore entertained by anatomists will furnish a foundation for speculations upon my mode of operating, I will give it in my lectures. And to confirm or demonstrate the correctness of my system, and prove its advantages over all others, the most difficult cases to extract may be presented to me when there (*before the audience*). I could not delay in your city more than a day."

Fine fun that, to jerk out teeth before a thousand persons! When the faculty of Boston require instruction from such high authority, Dr.

Caldwell will be sent for. Those gentlemen of Philadelphia, to whom reference is made—viz., Professors Gibson and Patterson, and Commodore Biddle—had better lose a tooth a-piece than have their names disgraced in the manner they now are on the advertisements of this travelling quack.

Homœopathic Oration.—There seems to be something in Dr. Channing's discourse before the physicians of New York, a while since, that does not satisfy all who heard him. The Examiner says, "the members have thanked him for what they themselves spoke of as a betrayal of their interests." Now if the orator was invited to deliver an oration, surely those who selected him are bound by the laws of courtesy to treat him civilly, even if they happen to dislike the subject. Perhaps the opportunity was a good one for suddenly creating a personal notoriety, which promised future advantages too clearly perceived to be neglected. If this was really the fact, the doctor could not have been placed in more fortunate circumstances for a debut, backed up by the whole profession of the city—which was saying to the people, this is a picked man, there is not another in New York whom we more delight to honor. He will never lack practice while the welkin rings with his name. Persecution from such a quarter will beget a public sympathy that is invariably expressed in dollars and cents.

Albany Medical College.—This new and flourishing institution has at length received its incorporation, says the Albany Argus, the bill having passed both houses with extraordinary unanimity, there being but one negative vote in the Assembly, and but two in the Senate. We understand that the amendments made to the bill as originally reported, are entirely satisfactory to the trustees and faculty, who accept the charter, and will immediately organize under it. And as the college has been in session, with a class of over fifty students in daily attendance upon the lectures, and as all the rights of other incorporated colleges, including that of conferring degrees which shall be a license to practise physic and surgery in the State, are now vested, by law, in the trustees and faculty, the Albany Medical College is fairly in the field of competition. From the popularity the school has thus early acquired, by the zeal and enterprise of the trustees, and the professional ability of the faculty, there can be no reasonable doubt of its success.

A meeting of the trustees was held at the college on the 19th ult., for the purpose of re-organizing under the act of incorporation granted by the Legislature; at which the Hon. Jared L. Rathbone, Mayor of the city, was elected President of the Board of Trustees, and John Davis, Secretary.

The Board then proceeded to the appointment of professors, and the following gentlemen were unanimously elected. Alden March, M.D., Professor of Surgery; Ebenezer Emmons, M.D., Professor of Chemistry and Natural History; James H. Armsby, M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology; David M. Reese, M.D., Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine; Henry Greene, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children; David M. McLaughlan, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy; Amos Dean, Esq., Professor of Medical Jurisprudence.

Treatment of Scarlatina.—Readers are referred to the first article for a sensible dissertation on the value of seasonable emetics in scarlet fever.

by Dr. Cross, of Lexington, Ky. Since, as a general rule, the modern treatment of this disease is unsuccessful in New England, these remarks, from good authority, cannot be otherwise than interesting.

Relief of Constipation in Insane Persons.—Mr. Geo. Bodington, Surgeon, of Warwickshire, England, relates several interesting cases in the *Lancet*, in which he was successful in removing that torpidity and obstinate costiveness of the bowels which are so common to many lunatics, and which sometimes occur in other cases. The following mixture was given to a female maniac whose bowels had not operated for years without strong purgatives, and who was also afflicted with prolapsus ani: Comp. infusion of roses, 3vj.; comp. tinct. of cardamoms, 3ij.; sulphate of magnesia, 3ij. To take a wine-glassful every second hour till an evacuation was procured. The bowels were relaxed in a few hours, and there was no displacement of the rectum. She afterwards occasionally took a dose of this mixture before breakfast, which never failed to operate, and now, two years after beginning to use it, her bowels act with regularity, and her health has improved. In another case, a tumbler nearly full of a mixture of compound infusion of roses, holding in solution about an ounce and a half of sulphate of magnesia, was commenced with, and was exceedingly beneficial. It was continued for a few weeks, at the end of which time the patient's bowels were perfectly regulated, which seemed to lay the foundation for his complete restoration to mental and bodily health.—Have any of our readers known colchicum to cause, during its use, obstinate costiveness?

Dr. Elliotson and Animal Magnetism.—Reference has at different times been made in this Journal to the experiments in animal magnetism on a female by the name of Okey, by Dr. Elliotson, the lecturer on medicine at the University College, and senior physician to the North London Hospital. Many of these experiments were repeated at this institution in a public manner, against the wishes of the medical committee of the hospital. This committee recently became so strongly convinced that these exhibitions were foreign to the objects of the hospital, that they took steps for the immediate discharge of Okey, and the prevention of the further practice of mesmerism in the wards. On being informed of these proceedings, Dr. Elliotson immediately sent in his resignation. It appears that Dr. E. has not been in the habit of introducing the subject of mesmerism into his public instructions to the students, a majority of whom have publicly expressed their regret at his withdrawal from the station which he has occupied with so much honor to himself and profit to them. He certainly seems to be an enthusiast, however, in this matter, as he still not only expresses his full conviction of the reality of mesmerism, but his belief that the light which his experiments will throw over the operations of nature, will equal, if not exceed, that elicited by all other discoveries. It is also said that he has been in the habit of making use of the *prophecies* of the girl Okey, to assist in the prognosis of cases in the hospital.—Dr. Copland has been appointed to finish the course of lectures on medicine which were commenced by Dr. Elliotson in the college, and Dr. Carswell physician to the hospital.

Prize relative to Vaccination.—Amongst the notices of the prizes proposed by the Academy of Sciences for the encouragement of medicine,

we find one announcing that a prize of 10,000 francs (£400) will be awarded in the year 1842, to the best memoir on the following questions :

Is the preservative power of the vaccine virus permanent, or is it only temporary ?

In the latter case determine, by precise experiments and by authentic facts, the time during which its preservative power continues.

Has the matter of cow-pock, taken from the cow, greater efficacy than the vaccine virus which has been transmitted through several individuals ?

Supposing it to be proved that the efficacy of the vaccine virus is diminished by transmission, should it be renewed, and by what means ?

What is the relation between the intensity of the local phenomena, and the preservative power of the vaccine virus ?

Is re-vaccination necessary, and if so, point out at what period it should be practised ?—*London Lancet.*

Medical Miscellany.—Dr. Jennings has been made Secretary of State in Mississippi.—Hardage Lane, M.D., was elected President of the Medical Society of Missouri, February 1st, and Franklin Knox, M.D., Corresponding Secretary.—Dr. Flint's address before the students of the Louisville Medical Institute, November 13th, is published in a pamphlet of 31 octavo pages, compact type.—Dr. John Burdell, an eminent dentist of New York, uses a decoction of hyson tea—one pound boiled down from a quart to half a pint—to allay the sensibility of the nerves of diseased teeth. Four drops killed a rabbit. When the same quantity was boiled down to a gill, four drops killed a young cat.—Mr. Combe, the phrenologist, is at Washington.—The Legislature of New York has refused a grant of money to the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Crosby street; the number of pay-students, says the Medical Examiner, this year, is only fifty.—Williams, the notorious quack and foreign eye mender, is reduced to the lowest level. Where are his Boston *fee-friends* ?—The 7th annual report of the New England Institution for the Education of the Blind has been given to the public, which is as interesting and satisfactory as any preceding one.—One hundred and fifty-one students are attending lectures at the Medical College of the State of South Carolina—an excellent, thriving institution, prudently but energetically managed by an industrious, scientific, and talented faculty.—Dr. J. B. Brown operated again last week, for clubbed feet, on a young child. Although badly distorted, as soon as the division of the tendo-Achillis was made, the foot was quite easily brought into shape.—Dr. Gallup's new work meets with friends where they were least expected.—A copy of a new work from Dublin, from the author, is hereby acknowledged—to be examined soon.—Dr. Howe's apparatus have been inspected by a competent judge, who pronounces the tourniquet to be a very valuable improvement.—Several important surgical operations have recently been performed in the neighborhood of Boston.—The lectures in the Medical Department of Bowdoin College, Maine, have commenced, and are, as usual, well attended.—Surgeons are in demand for the Eastern forces now congregating on the confines of the disputed territory. The chance is excellent for young surgeons to learn the elements of military surgery.

Whole number of deaths in Boston for the week ending March 2, 34. Males, 17—females, 17.

Of consumption, 5—old age, 2—hives, 1—scrofula, 1—scarlet fever, 3—dropsy on the brain, 5—lung fever, 2—typhoid fever, 1—dyspepsia, 1—dropsy, 1—apoplexy, 1—convulsions, 1—marasmus, 1—casualty, 1—croup, 1—burn, 1—dropsy in the chest, 1—insanity, 1—stillborn, 2.

SITUATION.

A YOUNG PHYSICIAN, in a town about 13 miles from Worcester, wishes to sell from two to three hundred dollars worth of personal property, consisting of a horse, rig, medicine, &c.; and emigrate. Town contains about 3000 inhabitants—two religious societies, and good schools through the year. A letter to the editor of the Journal, post-paid, will direct to the town and physician, of whom the conditions and any particulars may be obtained.

M 6—4top.

VERMONT MEDICAL COLLEGE.

THE annual course of Lectures, at this institution, will commence on the second Thursday of March next, and continue thirteen weeks.

Theory and Practice of Medicine and Obstetrics, by	H. H. CHILDS, M.D.
General and Special Anatomy and Physiology, by	ROBERT WATTS, JR., M.D.
Principles and Practice of Surgery, by	GILMAN KIMBALL, M.D.
Chemistry and Materia Medica, by	DAVID PALMER, M.D.
Medical Jurisprudence, by	NORMAN WILLIAMS, A.M.

Fees for the course—\$50. Graduation—\$18. For those who have attended two courses, but do not graduate—\$10. All the above expenses to be paid in advance, or secured by note, with a satisfactory endorser, to David Peirce, Esq., Treasurer of the Institution. Board may always be obtained in the village on reasonable terms. By order of the Board of Trustees, N. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Woodstock, Vt., Feb. 5, 1839.

Feb. 20—3t

PRIVATE MEDICAL INSTRUCTION.

Two subscribers are associated for the purpose of giving a complete course of medical instruction. Their pupils will have regular access to the medical and surgical practice of the Massachusetts General Hospital. They will be admitted, also, to the practice of the House of Correction, which constantly presents a large number of important cases, and where opportunities will be afforded for acquiring a practical knowledge of compounding and dispensing medicines. They will be furnished with opportunities for the study of Practical Anatomy, not inferior to any in the country. To the pupils, particularly to those in the last year of their professional studies, facilities will be afforded for acquiring a personal acquaintance with private medical and obstetric practice. Instruction by examinations or lectures will be given in the different branches of medical studies, during the interval between the public lectures of the University. Books, and a room with fire and lights, will be furnished to the students at the expense of the instructors.

GEORGE C. SHATTUCK,
WALTER CHANNING,
JOHN WARE,
GEORGE W. OTIS, JR.,
VINSLAW LEWIS, JR.

Oct 31—eptf

MEDICAL ALMANAC and Pocket and Memorandum Book for 1839, for sale at the Medical Journal office. Price 75 cts. On account of the binding, copies cannot be sent by mail.

Also, for sale, a few copies of Dr. Tuckerman's Letter to Dr. Warren, on the climate of Santa Cruz. Price 12 1/2 cts. Dec. 19.

SCHOOL FOR MEDICAL INSTRUCTION.

Two Subscribers propose establishing a private Medical School, to go into operation the first of September next. The advantages of the Massachusetts General Hospital and other public institutions will be secured to the pupils; and every attainable facility will be afforded for anatomical pursuits.

Regular oral instructions and examinations in all the branches of the profession, will form a part of the plan intended to be pursued.

On the Practice of Medicine and Materia Medica, by	DR. BIGELOW.
On Anatomy and Surgery, by	DR. REYNOLDS.
On Midwifery and Chemistry, by	DR. STORER.
On Physiology and Pathology, by	DR. HOLMES.

Dissections will be carried on throughout the year, and a course of Lectures on Practical Anatomy and Surgery will be given in the interval between the Medical Lectures of Harvard University.

A room will be provided in a central part of the city, with all the conveniences required by students.

JACOB BIGELOW,
EDWARD REYNOLDS,
D. HUMPHREYS STORER,
OLIVER W. HOLMES.

Boston, August 17, 1838.

Aug 22—ep3m

ORTHOPEDIC INFIRMARY

FOR THE TREATMENT OF SPINAL DISTORTIONS, CLUB FEET, ETC.

At 65 Belknap Street, Boston. Patients from a distance can be accommodated with board in the immediate neighborhood.

JOHN B. BROWN, M.D., Surgeon.

We the subscribers approve of Dr. J. B. Brown's plan of an infirmary for the treatment of Spinal Affections, Club Feet, and other Distortions of the human body, and will aid him by our advice whenever called upon.

John C. Warren, George Hayward, Edward Reynolds, Jno. Randall, J. Mason Warren, John Jeffries, John Homans, M. S. Perry, W. Channing, George C. Shattuck, J. Bigelow, Enoch Hale, W. Strong, George Parkman, D. Humphreys Storer, George W. Otis, Jr., Winslow Lewis, Jr., J. B. Lane, Edw. Warren, Geo. B. Doane, John Ware, George Bartlett, John Flint.

Boston, August 1, 1838.

11.

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